



Shawclough C.P. School

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15th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

ATTENDANCE

After two difficult years for our children, our focus is now to improve the attendance of Shawclough pupils and, in turn, improve their attainment, wellbeing and development. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to ensure their child attends school regularly and we are here to work with you to achieve this. Ideally, we would like to see all of our pupils achieve 100% attendance but we expect at least 96% at the end of the academic year. As an example, if a child has 95% attendance, they must have been absent for 10 days, which means that **they have missed 50 lessons**. This is an unacceptable amount of learning that your child could be losing.

In order to continue to develop good attendance patterns, please note the following:-

- **If your child is unwell, please inform school as early as possible on their first day of absence, either by phone or e.mail.**
- We will share attendance information with you each week, on the Newsletter.
- All children who attend will now be awarded a 'Dojo' each day when they register in class, as part of their class reward scheme. We will continue to award an 'Attendance Champion' from each Phase, for a randomly selected pupil who had 100% attendance and punctuality the previous week. Classes with 100% attendance for a full week, will receive a class game for use during 'wet play'. There is a prize for the 'best class' attendance each half term and also individual certificates for 100% attendance each half term. So there are lots of reasons why your child should be encouraged to attend, as well as the educational benefits.
- The Headteacher, Pastoral Lead and Admin. Assistant will monitor absences every day and contact you if there are concerns.
- If you have any issues or your child has/is being referred for a medical condition – please let us know and we can support you.
- **We will not authorise any holidays in term time and, in line with the Government's intention to standardise practice across all schools, from January 2023 we will issue Penalty Notices for any holiday taken in term time. The will result in a fine of £60 per parent, per child (rising to £120 each if not paid in 21 days).**

On a lighter note – send your children to school and save on gas, electric and food !!!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding the above.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Sandiford-Mitchell - Headteacher